



THE

# RecyCool PLANET

The Official RecyCool Club Publication

Summer Edition

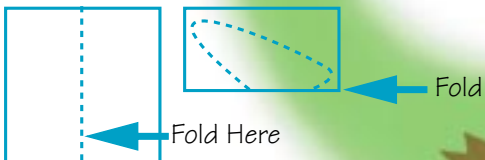
## Summertime Lightning Bug!

Light up the night this summer by making yourself  
a lightning bug!

### Supplies you'll need:

- construction paper (choose colors you like)
- green plastic soda or water bottle (emptied and cleaned)
- tape, glue or glue gun (works best)
- 2 fuzzy pipe cleaners (again, choose the colors you like)
- Pencil • Scissors • Small Pom-poms (for eyes)
- Fluorescent light stick (available wherever camping supplies are sold)

1. Empty and clean your green soda or water bottle.
2. Measure and cut a piece of construction paper so it covers the label of your container. Wrap that piece around the middle of the bottle for the bug's thorax and tape or glue in place.
3. Measure and cut a circle of construction paper (for the bug's face) to cover the bottom of the bottle. Glue the pom-poms on for the eyes. You can draw a mouth, or cut one out of construction paper and glue it to the face.
4. To make the antennae, fold 1 pipe cleaner in half forming a V, then bend the ends down. Tape the pipe cleaner to the back of the face, then glue the face (with antennae attached) on to the bottom of the bottle.
5. To make the legs, cut the other pipe cleaner in half. Fold both pieces into a V shape, and bend the ends down. Put the points of the V's together and tape to the bottom of the bottle.
6. To make the wings, fold your construction paper in half and draw one set of wings along the fold. (see diagram below). Then, cut out the wings and glue or tape them on to the bugs back.



7. Cut 2 lightning bolts out of construction paper and tape or glue them to the "neck" of the bottle, so it partially hides the bottle cap on each side.
8. Let all the glue dry...
9. Activate the light stick and place it inside the bottle.
10. Have lots of fun with your lightning bug!

## Summertime Greetings!



Hey, all my RecyCool friends, I'm so happy it's summertime! I'm looking forward to going to the beach, watching a baseball or soccer game or just hanging out with friends.

During the summer season, most of us love a cool drink like soda, juice or water. Most of those drinks come in plastic bottles that are recyclable. But, if we don't recycle those bottles, it can take as long as 700 years for them to decompose (or rot!)...which means that if you throw your plastic bottle in the garbage today, it will just sit in the landfill (or dump) until the year 2704...Wow! That's a long, long time! That would be a shame, because it's so simple to just recycle! You can put your containers in your curbside recycling bin, or take your containers to your nearest recycling center. Call **1-800-RECYCLE** or log on to **www.bottlesandcans.com** to locate your nearest recycling center. (All you need to know is your zip code!)

Have a safe and fun-filled summer! But, more importantly, stay "RECY- COOL" by saving energy and valuable natural resources by recycling and reusing your beverage containers!

I hope you enjoy my newsletter and remember to recycle where you live, learn and play!

Your pal,

*Recycle Rex*

P.S.  
Don't forget to recycle this newsletter when you're finished! Even better, give it to your friends or family to read when you're done.





**All California Elementary Schools, Kindergarten through 8th grade (Public or Private) are welcome!**

Hey there RecyCoolers! Is your class ready for a fun challenge? My friends and I at the Division of Recycling would like to challenge your class to see how many aluminum and plastic California Redemption Value (CRV) beverage containers you can collect in two months **(October 15 - December 15)**. We'd also like to know what you and your class did with the money you received from the recycling centers and how you collected your beverage containers.

#### Contest Rules:

#### Step 1 - Register

Each class must **register by September 30, 2004**. Ask a parent or teacher for permission and help! To register, you must **complete all** of the information on the registration form below.

You may register by sending me an e-mail: [recyclerex@consrv.ca.gov](mailto:recyclerex@consrv.ca.gov) or by sending the completed registration form below via US Postal Service to:  
**Recycle Rex, Division of Recycling, Education Section,  
801 K Street MS 17-01, Sacramento, CA 95814.**

All registrations (e-mail or US mail) must be **received by September 30, 2004**.

#### Registration Form:

Student's name & grade:

School district:

School name:

School address: **California Schools only please!**

Street address City Zip code

Teacher's name/or name of parent overseeing the project:

A school phone number  
and/or school e-mail:

#### Step 2- Recycle

Collect as many California Redemption Value (CRV) beverage containers from home, school, local parks, etc. You can even hold a recycling drive at your school and ask all the students at your school to bring their CRV beverage containers to your class on specified days. All aluminum and plastic CRV marked beverage containers are eligible containers for the purposes of this contest and can be redeemed at your local recycling center for money! CRV beverage containers include coffee and tea beverages, vegetable juice (16 oz and under only), sport drinks, carbonated and non carbonated: fruit drinks, water and soft drinks. Other similar drink containers, such as plastic milk jugs, are recyclable but are not CRV beverage containers.

#### Step 3 - Redeem

Have a parent or teacher take your CRV containers to your nearest recycling center. If your teacher is up for it, you can even make it a class field trip! Make copies of the forms (receipts) you receive from the recycling center showing the weight of the aluminum and/or plastic beverage containers you turned in on or between October 15 - December 15, 2004. (Depending on the recycling center you bring your recyclables to, you might have to make the copy before you receive your money)

#### Step 4 - Notify Us With Your Success!

Send my pals at the Division of Recycling the following information by **January 15, 2005**:

- copies of the receipts you received from the recycling center showing the weight of the beverage containers you turned in (receipts must be **dated on or between October 15-December 15, 2004**)
- the total number of pounds recycled and the total amount of money you received from the recycling center
- tell us how you and your class spent the money (e.g. pizza party, P.E equipment, art supplies )
- if you'd like, send us a picture of your class!

#### Prizes

Each class that registers and sends us the items listed in Step 4 (by the specified dates above) will receive an achievement certificate! But wait, there's more! Each student in you class can earn the following prizes:

- The class that collects the most pounds of CRV aluminum beverage containers will receive Recycle Rex T- shirts made from recycled plastic bottles!
- The class that collects the most pounds of CRV plastic beverage containers will receive Recycle Rex binders and reusable lunch bags made from recycled plastic bottles!
- The class that collects the most total pounds of CRV (aluminum and plastic combined) will receive backpacks made from, you guessed it, recycled plastic bottles too! (take a look at [www.earthpak.com](http://www.earthpak.com)).



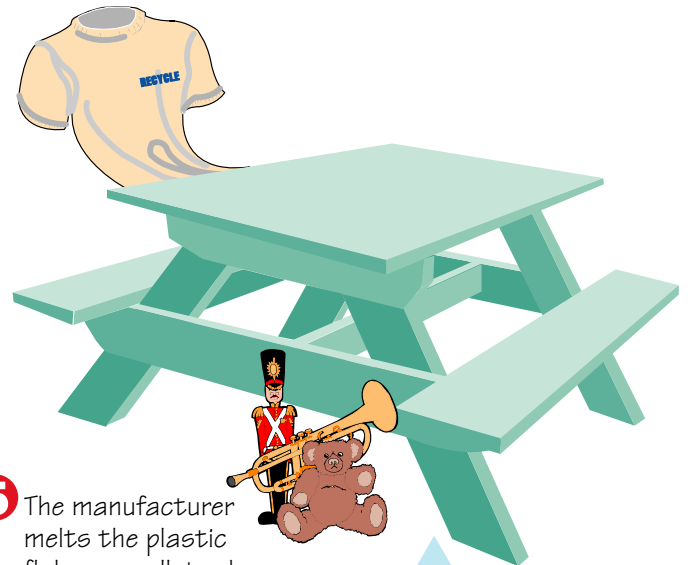
Certificates and prizes will be awarded in February and March 2005.



# How are Plastic Bottles Recycled?

Recycle Rex and his friends wanted to know the answer to this question one warm, summer day while picking up recyclables in their local park. So they went to their local recycling center and found out!

- 1** Plastic containers are brought to the recycling center where they are sorted by type and sometimes color. They are crushed together and formed into a huge cube or bale.



- 5** The manufacturer melts the plastic flakes or pellets down for molding into new products like:

- fiberfill for sleeping bags
- plastic lumber
- containers for non-food products
- toys
- compost bins
- rulers
- T-shirts



- 2** The bales of plastic are shipped to a plastics processing plant.

- 3** The plastic is broken apart and shredded into flakes or pellets and then cleaned.



- 4** The flakes or pellets are shipped to manufacturers of plastic goods.





State of California  
THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
Department of Conservation  
Division of Recycling  
801 K Street, MS 17-01  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## Ways to reuse your RecyCool Newsletter

- Share it with a friend after you're done reading it!
- Wrap a birthday gift in it.
- Use it as you would tissue paper.
- Reuse it as a book cover
- Check out an origami book at the library and fold it into something: a hat, a boat, a ball, a crane, a frog and many more things!
- Cut out some of the pictures you like and use them in a decoupage project.
- Make a paper airplane out of it.
- Cut it up into pieces and turn it into a puzzle.
- Cut it into strips and make a paper chain out of it.
- Use it to protect a surface while working on an art project.
- After you're completely done with it, please recycle it!

## Find these important words!

RECYCLE, REDUCE, REUSE, ALUMINUM, GLASS, PLASTIC

E	N	U	T	A	O	T	E	O	G	P	U	J
S	A	E	R	E	U	S	E	M	L	R	C	C
V	B	I	E	R	E	C	R	V	A	M	I	U
A	O	E	F	D	U	R	E	L	S	T	A	E
T	E	U	S	D	J	I	A	S	S	O	H	D
T	C	T	E	C	B	L	A	A	E	R	I	H
F	R	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	N	I	R	E
O	T	S	A	I	H	P	U	T	C	F	U	A
E	L	T	H	O	F	R	M	C	A	I	I	L
Z	A	T	C	R	K	G	I	M	D	Z	N	G
M	O	K	N	O	F	N	N	I	S	Q	A	S
S	E	O	M	Z	U	A	U	H	E	W	E	R
S	G	E	V	S	P	T	M	G	G	D	G	L

## ANSWER

T	G	D	G	G	W	L	P	S	V	E	G	S
R	E	M	E	H	U	A	U	Z	M	O	S	S
S	A	S	I	N	N	F	N	O	K	N	O	S
G	N	Z	I	M	D	Z	N	G	A	T	C	R
L	I	L	A	I	L	C	A	I	L	L	L	L
A	U	A	I	H	P	U	T	C	F	U	A	A
E	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	N	I	R	E	E
H	I	R	I	A	E	R	I	H	H	H	H	H
D	H	O	S	S	O	H	D	D	D	D	D	D
A	E	T	A	E	T	A	E	T	A	E	T	A
U	I	U	I	U	I	U	I	U	I	U	I	U
C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
J	U	P	O	T	A	O	T	E	O	G	P	U

## Congratulations to all the RecyCool Club Graduates!

If this is the fourth newsletter you've received from me, you've officially graduated from my RecyCool Club! You can continue to learn about recycling, reducing, reusing and closing the loop on my website: [www.conservation.ca.gov](http://www.conservation.ca.gov) look for the "Kids Only" section. Please remember to recycle where you live, learn and play!